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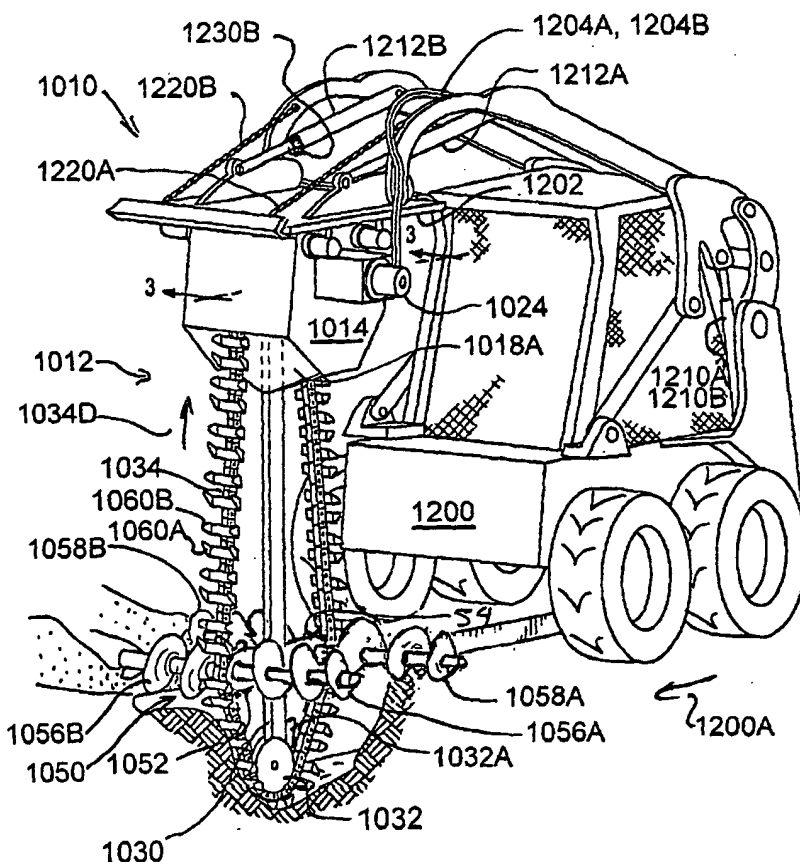
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TRENCHER



(57) Abstract: The trencher of the present invention includes a wheeled carriage (12) which has a steering mechanism and a digging chain (72) which operates along an upright path. The trencher includes an upright boom structure (60) that is mounted to the carriage and a digging chain support frame (64) that can be raised and lowered relative to the trencher along an upright path. The digging chain (72) is mounted to the digging chain support frame (64) by a powered sprocket wheel (70) and a freely turning pulley wheel (71). The sprocket wheel (70) and the pulley wheel (71) are positioned so that the digging chain describes an upright path. The path described by the digging chain is sufficiently upright so that the trencher can excavate a curved trench without the digging chain interfering with the walls of the trench to a degree that is sufficient to impede the operation of the trencher.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3,771,241A (LINDELL et al) 13 November 1973 (13.11.1973), see whole document.	1, 2, 4, 6-11, 13, and 15-18
X	US 3,603,010 A (POLLNEK) 7 September 1971 (07.09.1971), see whole document.	1-21
X	US 4,974,348 A (WALLACE) 04 December 1990 (04.12.1990), see whole document.	1-21

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

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"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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